

(e) Review and approve plans for proposed regional sewage disposal systems and for proposed municipal and county-wide systems which are compatible with a regional plan.

(f) Administer a State program of financial assistance to local governments and regional planning agencies for the development of comprehensive plans for regional sewage disposal systems or county systems compatible with regional plans.

(g) Provide technical assistance to local and regional planning agencies and to consulting engineering firms.

"§ 162A-29. *Regional Sewage Disposal Planning Revolving Fund established; conditions and procedures.*—(a) There is established under the control and direction of the Department of Administration a Regional Sewage Disposal Planning Revolving Fund, to consist of any moneys that may be appropriated for use through the Fund by the General Assembly or that may be made available to it from any other source. The Department may make advances from the Fund to any county, municipality, or sanitary district, or to counties and municipalities acting collectively or jointly as a regional sewer authority, for the purpose of meeting the cost of advance planning and engineering work necessary or desirable for the development of a comprehensive plan for a regional sewage disposal system as defined in this Article. Such advances shall be subject to repayment by the recipient to the Department from the proceeds of bonds or other obligations for the regional sewage disposal system, or from other funds available to the recipient including grants, except when, in the judgment of the Department of Water and Air Resources, a proposed plan for development and construction of a county-wide or other regional sewage disposal system is not feasible because of design and construction factors, or because of the effect that the sewage disposal system discharge will have upon water quality standards, or because construction of a proposed system is not economically feasible, (but not if the applicant decides not to proceed with construction that has been planned and which the Department of Water and Air Resources has declared to be feasible.)

(b) The Department of Administration shall not make any advance pursuant to this section without first referring the application and proposal to the State Department of Water and Air Resources, the State agency responsible for water pollution control, for determination as to whether the conditions set forth below have been met:

- (1) The proposed area is suitable for development of a regional sewage disposal system from the standpoint of present and projected populations, industrial growth potential, and present and future sources of sewage.
- (2) The applicant proposes to undertake long-range comprehensive planning to meet present and projected needs for high quality sewage disposal through the construction of a regional sewage disposal system as defined in this Article. The determination by the Department of Water and Air Resources that the proposed system would be a 'regional system', as defined by this Article, shall be conclusive.
- (3) The applicant proposes to coordinate planning of the regional sewage disposal system with land use planning in the area, in order that both planning efforts will be compatible.